

Benefits of an Effective Workers' Compensation

DMP Program



What is a Designated Medical Provider (DMP)?

- A DMP is a medical professional or facility selected by the employer to treat work related injuries. All employers in North Dakota have the option of selecting a DMP.
- Employers may choose a single provider, a group of providers, or any combination of provider specialties (including chiropractors).
- While employers can choose any combination of providers as their DMP, employers should select providers with the knowledge and training to work with occupational injuries.
- This professional knowledge in work-related injuries enhances the implementation of appropriate treatment plans that include using the job as part of the recovery process and positively impacts the healing process.

- An employer's selection of a DMP does not apply to emergency treatment, treatment the worker did not know was related to a compensable injury or care directed by WSI or DMP referrals.



Benefits of a Designated Medical Provider

By working with a DMP who understands your business and shares in the commitment to the safety, health, and well-being of your employees you can:

- Reduce the length of time off work
- Reduce workers' compensation costs
- Provide employees with opportunities to make informed choices about treatment and transitional work opportunities
- Retain valuable employees through a transitional work program
- Reduce the risk of re-injury
- Reduce work replacement costs

Selecting a Designated Medical Provider?

As an employer, you should be selective in the process of choosing a DMP.

Some areas to consider include:

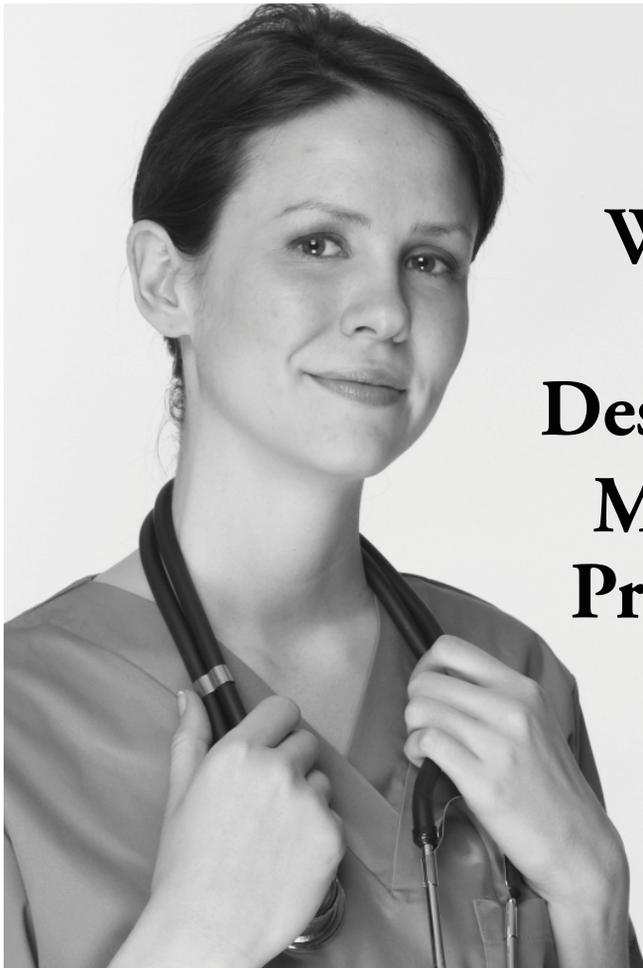
- Does the provider have experience in working with occupational injuries?
- Is the provider willing to come to your place of business to better understand your operations?
- Is the provider open to including using the job as part of the recovery process?
- Is the provider willing to communicate with you on work-related treatment plans in a timely manner (define what the timely expectation would be)?
- Is the provider willing to allow an employer representative to attend an appointment with the injured worker to discuss return-to-work (RTW) options?
- How does the provider measure functional capabilities?

What is the Employer's Role? The employer should:

- Inform the provider, in writing, that they have been selected as their DMP
- Develop an agreement with the DMP
- Have a contact person identified for the DMP
- Inform employees of the DMP selection and their options
- Display the DMP selection in a place where employees easily see it
- Conduct annual training on the DMP selection process
- Develop transitional work duties so the DMP knows transitional work is available
- Have detailed job descriptions provided to the DMP at the time of the injury
- Inform WSI of the DMP selected

What is the Designated Medical Provider's Role? The DMP should:

- Acquire knowledge of the employer's business operations and job functions
- Have a contact person identified for the employer
- Provide prompt and appropriate care to injured workers
- Evaluate the injury and develop treatment plans including using the job as part of the recovery process
- Establish functional capabilities
- Provide completed reports promptly. Note: For each medical appointment a Capabilities Assessment form (C3) or Workability Assessment form should be completed
- Establish and maintain communication with the injured worker, employer, and WSI
- Share in the employer's goal of keeping the injured worker at work, while making sure abilities match job functions
- Maintain responsibility for the direction of medical management including referral to specialists



**Who is
your
Designated
Medical
Provider?**

WSI

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